

B1 2. (TWICE AMENDED) The tire of claim 1 in which the fabric underlay comprises opposing marginal edges which extend laterally beyond lateral edges of the belt structure.

3. (TWICE AMENDED) The tire of claim 1 in which the high-modulus reinforcing cords of the fabric underlay are made of high-modulus material selected from the group consisting of polyester, nylon, rayon, aramid and glass.

4. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The tire of claim 1 in which the fabric underlay is located on the tensile side of the neutral bending axis of the combined belt structure, fabric underlay and ply structure.

B2 5. (TWICE AMENDED) The tire of claim 4 in which the cords of the fabric underlay are circumferentially oriented and are prestressed in tension during manufacturing of the tire.

6. (TWICE AMENDED) The tire of claim 1 in which the fabric underlay increases a web width between the belt structure and the ply structure.

7. (TWICE AMENDED) The tire of claim 1 in which the reinforcing cords of the fabric underlay are oriented at an angle of 0 degrees with respect to the equatorial plane of the tire.

8. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The tire of claim 1 in which a fabric overlay is disposed between the belt structure and the tread.

B3 9. (TWICE AMENDED) The tire of claim 1 wherein at least one of the radial plies is reinforced by essentially inextensible cords.

10. (TWICE AMENDED) A method of constructing a radial ply tire by the steps of:
a) forming a blown-up green tire carcass;
b) circumferentially wrapping a ribbon of cord-reinforced elastomeric material upon the blown-up green tire carcass to form the fabric underlay so that the cords of the elastomeric material are oriented at an angle of about 0 degrees to about 5 degrees with respect to the equatorial plane of the blown-up green carcass;

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- c) blowing up the blown-up green tire carcass with the ribbon of cord-reinforced elastomeric material to engage a belt structure and a tread to form a completed green tire; and
- d) blowing up the completed green tire in a curing mold to prestress the reinforcing cords of the fabric underlay.
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11. The method of claim 10 further including the step of circumferentially winding the ribbon of cord-reinforced elastomeric material about the blown-up green carcass such that the edges of the ribbon overlap.

12. The method of claim 10 further including the step of circumferentially winding the edges of the ribbon of cord-reinforced elastomeric material about the blown-up carcass such that the edges of the ribbon meet without overlapping.

Please ADD the following:

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13. The method of claim 11 wherein the reinforcement cords are disposed at an angle of between about 0 degrees and about 5 degrees with respect to the equatorial plane (EP) of the tire.

14. The method of claim 12 wherein the reinforcement cords are disposed at an angle of between about 0 degrees and about 5 degrees with respect to the equatorial plane (EP) of the tire.

15. The method of claim 10 wherein the cord-reinforced elastomeric material is wrapped upon the blown-up green carcass as a single ply having approximately the width of the tread.

16. The method of claim 15 wherein the reinforcement cords are inclined between about 0 degrees and about 30 degrees with respect to the equatorial plane (EP) of the tire.

17. The method of claim 15 wherein the reinforcement cords are inclined between about 0 degrees and about 20 degrees with respect to the equatorial plane (EP) of the tire.

18. The method of claim 15 wherein the reinforcement cords are inclined at about 0 degrees with respect to the equatorial plane (EP) of the tire.